#### **FEBRUARY 2, 2024**

#### **MONTHLY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER**



# Khowhemun Elementary School

We are grateful to be learning together on the traditional and unceded territory of the Coast Salish People.







# Charlene Johnny is Returning to Khowhemun!

We are excited to welcome Coast Salish Artist, Charlene Johnny, back to Khowhemun this month for the completion of another mural installation. Charlene will be adding her vibrant designs to Khowhemun's gym, and continue to help Khowhemun to highlight the identity of the school and share stories of the local community and land. We raise our hands in gratitude to Khowutzun Forestry Services and the Cowichan Valley School District for sponsoring this project. Charlene will be at Khowhemun starting February 12, and will be working in the gym for approximately two weeks. Families are invited to visit the school to observe her work and see the progress.

# Pink Shirt Day

On Wednesday, February 28th, our school will participate in the national Pink Shirt Day campaign to show our support for anti-bullying awareness. We will be talking about the difference between rude, mean, and bullying behaviour, and discussing strategies for dealing with social problems. We also will be discussing the ERASE Report it Tool, which students can use to report worrisome and concerning situations. We invite students wear pink to school in recognition of bullying prevention.

# Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration for next year has begun! We are excited to meet Khowhemun's newest students this spring at the Ready, Set, Go event in May. Registration continues to be available online at www.sd79.bc.ca or from the school's office. We encourage families to register in the near future to help with planning for the upcoming school year. Should you have further questions, please call the school office at 250-746-7845.

#### UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS:

Feb. 5 - 15 Khowhemun Knows Poster Competition

Wednesday, Feb. 14 Spirit Day: Red & Pink Day

Thursday, Feb. 15 BC Lions Energy Champions Presentation

Friday, Feb.16 Non-Instructional Day (no school for students)

Monday, Feb. 19 Family Day Schools closed



Wednesday, Feb. 28 Pink Shirt Day

Mar. 11-22 Spring Vacation



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# Cowichan Monthly Teaching: Hwial'asmut ch tun's-ye'll (Take care of your health)

This month, we will be focusing on the Cowichan Teaching Hwial'asmut ch tun's-ye'll (Take care of your health). During our time together in Family Groups, with connection to Pink Shirt Day, we will be focussing on taking care of our mental health by discussing kindness, strategies for dealing with unkindness, and how we can make ourselves feel good by helping others to feel good too.

# **Communicating Student Learning**

This week Written Learning Updates will be sent home with students. This document will provide families with information about their child's growth and learning so far this year. Please reach out to your child's classroom teacher if you have any questions about your child's progress.

# Student Learning Survey - Family Input

From late February to early April, students in Grades 4 and 7, their families, and school staff will be invited to complete the Ministry of Education Anonymous Student Learning Survey, which will provide our school and district with important information about students' learning experiences at school. Your feedback is appreciated. We thank you in advance for taking the time to complete the survey. Further information about the process will be shared with families of Grades 4 and 7 students in the weeks to come.

# Vancouver Island Nursing Students

This month, Khowhemun welcomes Year 1 Vancouver Island University Nursing Students to the school to work alongside staff and students. The 1st year students are completing the community nursing component of their practicum and will be speaking with different classes on a variety of topics, including nutrition, online safety, and healthy relationships to name a few. They are also working on a few outdoor projects around the school. Stay tuned for more details.

# Spirit Day

This month's spirit day is on Valentine's Day! On Wednesday, February 14th, students are invited to wear pink and red to school in the spirit of love, friendship and kindness!

# Personal Electronic Devices

If you send your child to school with a cell phone, iPod, or other electronic device, please remind them that the device must be turned off and in their backpack during class time. We also request that students view and listen to appropriate content and use the device in respectful ways while at school. This also includes not taking, sharing, or uploading images of another individual without his or her permission. The school is not responsible for any lost or damaged devices. Thank you in advance for supporting these school expectations.

